

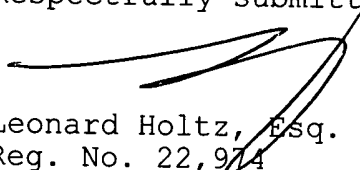
5 ends of said glass part is tapered in such a manner that there is a continuous curved surface at a boundary between the at least one of the open ends and said internal hole.

REMARKS

Claim 8 has been amended to correct the dependency thereof. Approval and entry of amended claim 8 is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Leonard Holtz, Esq.  
Reg. No. 22,974

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Frishauf, Holtz, Goodman, Langer & Chick, P.C.  
767 Third Avenue - 25th Floor  
New York, New York 10017-2023  
Tel. No. (212) 319-4900  
Fax No. (212) 319-5101  
LH/sdf:sp

VERSION OF CLAIMS SHOWING AMENDMENTS MADE

8. (Amended) A glass part for connecting optical fibers  
manufactured using the method claimed in claim [2] 3, wherein  
said glass part has open ends, and wherein at least one of the  
open ends of said glass part is tapered in such a manner that  
5 there is a continuous curved surface at a boundary between the at  
least one of the open ends and said internal hole.